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PPH
3/7/2002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application No. 09/776,676)
)
Filed: February 6, 2001) Art Unit: 2831
)
Confirmation No.: 2527) Examiner: Nguyen, Chau N.
)
Inventors: Cai et al.) Docket No.: 114685-00105
)
Title: KAOLIN ADDITIVE IN MINERAL)
INSULATED METAL SHEATHED)
CABLES)

**PETITION TO RESET PERIOD TO REPLY
DUE TO LATE RECEIPT OF OFFICE ACTION**

RECEIVED

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

FEB 22 2002

Sir:

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800
SPECIAL PROGRAM CENTER

In response to the Notice to the First Office Action mailed December 6, 2001, the Applicants, through undersigned counsel, respectfully petition under MPEP §710.06 to restart the previously set period to reply to run from the date on which the Notice was received at the Applicants' representative's correspondence address, namely, January 30, 2002.

A copy of the First Office Action is attached hereto. As can be seen, the Action shows a mailing date of December 6, 2001. However, the Action also shows a date stamp identifying the receipt date as January 30, 2002. Further, the Action shows the correct correspondence address; thus, the late receipt was not caused by any failure on the part of the Applicants' representative to provide a correct address.

The Applicants respectfully submit that the requirements under MPEP §710.06 for such a Petition are met.

(A) The Petition is filed within two weeks of the date of receipt of the Notice at the correspondence address.

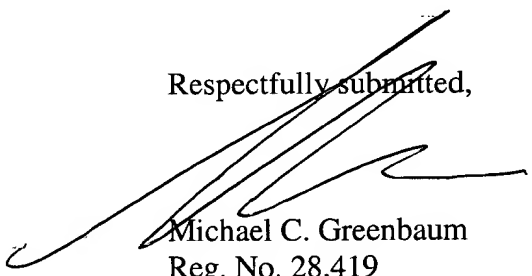
(B) A substantial portion – namely, more than a month – of the set period for reply had elapsed on the date of receipt.

(C) The Petition includes evidence showing the date of receipt at the correspondence address, in the form of a copy of the Action with the firm's date stamp thereon. The undersigned hereby states that the Action was received at the correspondence address on December 26, 2001. The undersigned further states that the evidence establishes that date because all correspondence from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office received by the firm at the correspondence address is date-stamped on the date on which it is received.

For the reasons set forth above, the Applicants respectfully petition for resetting of the time period for response to run from January 30, 2002. Notice of such resetting is earnestly solicited.

The Applicants respectfully submit that no fee is required for the instant petition. However, the Office is authorized to charge any deficiency in fees, or to credit any overpayment thereof, to BLANK ROME COMISKY & MCCAULEY LLP, Deposit Account No. 23-2185 (114685-00105).

Respectfully submitted,


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